THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Doordarshan does not aim to curtail the popularity of private channels but to improve viewership of its channels:

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Doordarshan continuounsly endeavours to improve its programmes and quality of coverage. Some rescent intitiatives taken in this regard including modification of fixed point chart (FPC) to include a wise variety of programmes, improvement in quality and content of regional programmes, improvement in quality of transmission through digitalization in the satellite segments of the channels and increase in during transmission time of regional satellite channels.

Crimes and Suicides being encouraged by Electronic Media

†839. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the incidents in which children have committed crimes and suicides being encouraged by media especially electronic media;

(b) if so, whether Government have issued new directives for the programmes being telecast; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Representations have been received occasionally alleging certain TV programmes as cause of commission of crimes by children. However, so far, no definite correlation has been established between the two in such cases.

(b) and (c) Government has not issued any new directive to the media as they are expected to function within the prescribed statutory or self regulatory codes and practices, wherever applicable.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.